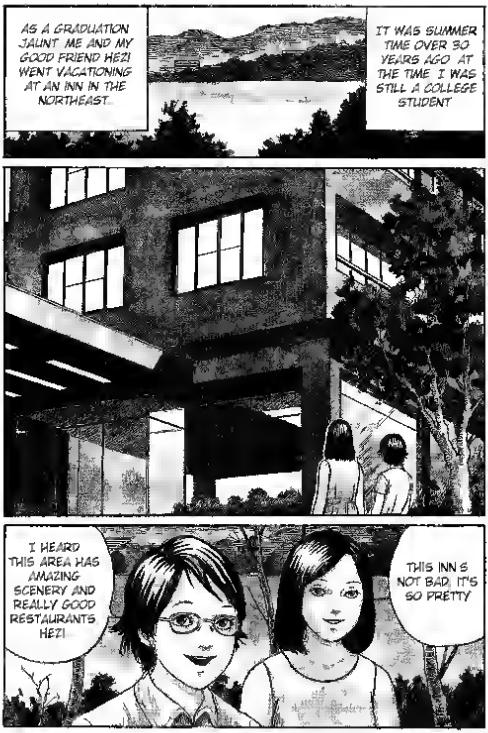
THIS COMIC APPEARS TO BE ILLUSTRATED, BUT NOT WRITTEN, BY JUNJI ITO.

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY IT REGARDLESS!

-SLUG CHICKS

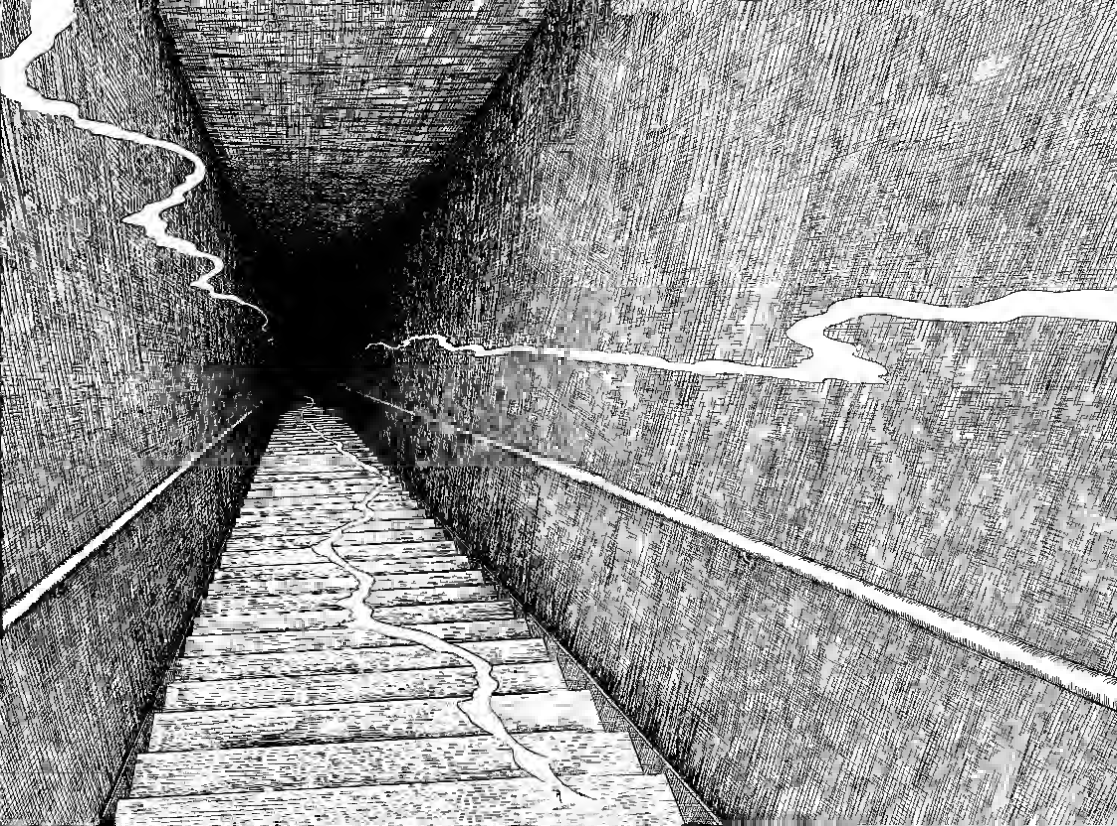
SPECIAL PIECE -
SUMMER TIME
GRADUATION
VACATION


AS A GRADUATION JAUNT, ME AND MY GOOD FRIEND HEZI WENT VACATIONING AT AN INN IN THE NORTHEAST.
IT WAS SUMMER TIME OVER 30 YEARS AGO. AT THE TIME I WAS STILL A COLLEGE STUDENT.
I HEARD THIS AREA HAS AMAZING SCENERY AND REALLY GOOD RESTAURANTS, HEZI.
THIS INN'S NOT BAD. IT'S SO PRETTY.

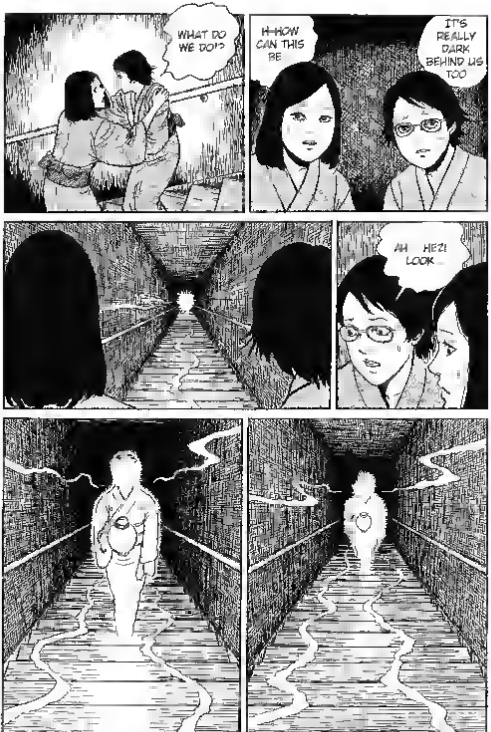
PLEASE WALK THIS WAY
I'LL TAKE YOU TWO TO YOUR ROOM
WEL-COME
IT'S THIS ROOM RIGHT HERE
WOW, THIS ROOM IS SO PRETTY!
THE VIEW IS AMAZ-ING, TOO!

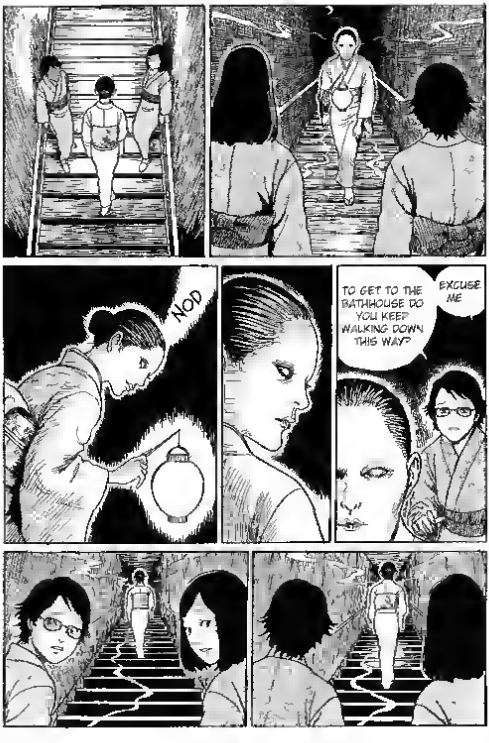
THE BATHHOUSE IS AT THE BACK OF THE LOBBY, DOWN THE STAIRS
WELL THEN, PLEASE ENJOY YOUR-SELVES
SURE
DINNER WILL BE AT 6PM, WOULD THAT BE ALRIGHT?
OF COURSE
HEY, WANNA GO TO THE HOT-SPRING FIRST BEFORE DINNER?

I WONDER WHAT KIND OF BATH-HOUSE IT IS
I'M ASSUMING IT'S REALLY BIG
THIS IS SO EXCIT-ING
AHH! YOU CAN REALLY SMELL THE HOT-SPRINGS
I WANNA DRINK SOME BEER
AND I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR AFTER-SPA DINNER
I HEAR THE HOTSPRINGS HERE ARE GOOD FOR THE SKIN!
WON-DERFUL
HUH?
...



NO... JUST NOW WHEN WE WERE WALKING DOWN, I THOUGHT THEY WERE WELL LIT AND YOU COULD SEE THE BOTTOM PASSAGEWAY.
HEY... WERE THESE STAIRS ALWAYS THIS DARK... AND THIS FAR DOWN?
ANYHOW, WE'VE BEEN WALKING DOWN THESE STAIRS FOR A WHILE NOW...

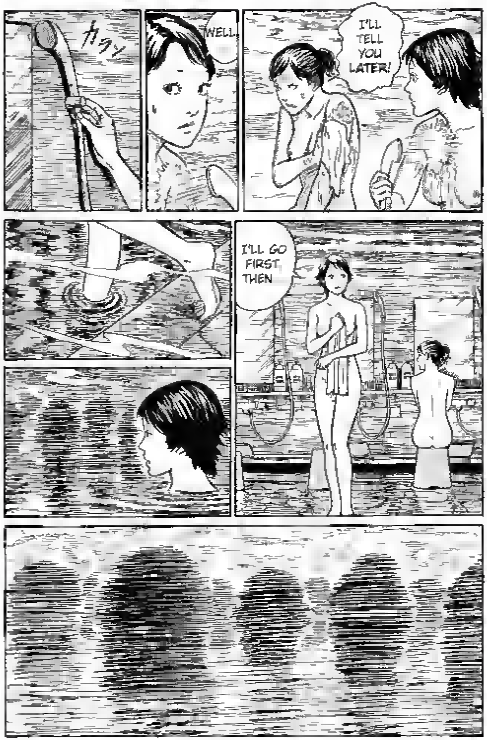

WHAT DO WE DO!?
H-HOW CAN THIS BE
IT'S REALLY DARK BEHIND US TOO
AH HEY! LOOK...


NOD
EXCUSE ME
TO GET TO THE BATHHOUSE DO YOU KEEP WALKING DOWN THIS WAY?

*right: Women's bath
left: Men's bath
AH
女湯
WHATEVER, ANYHOW, SINCE WE'RE HERE WE MIGHT AS WELL JUST GO IN
"THAT'S SO WEIRD
ガラッ

HUH THERE'S A LOT OF PEOPLE

バシャ
バシャ
カラン
W-WHAT'S WRONG? HEZI...
WHAT'S WEIRD?
HUH?
IT FEELS WEIRD


カラン
WELL...
I'LL TELL YOU LATER!
I'LL GO FIRST. THEN

ガッ
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE QUICKLY!
HEZI
HURRY!
STOP ASKING HURRY UP!
WHAT'S WRONG? HEZI!
女湯
AH!

LET'S GO, QUICKLY!
THE FIRST FLOOR IS RIGHT IN FRONT OF US.
A-A-A-
HEZI, WHAT EXACTLY HAPPENED?
AHHH... THAT SCARED ME HALF TO DEATH.
THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT THE BATHHOUSE DID HAVE A LOT OF PEOPLE.
WHAT?
"WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?!" DIDN'T YOU SEE IT?

BUT ALL THE PEOPLE WERE FACING BACK-WARDS

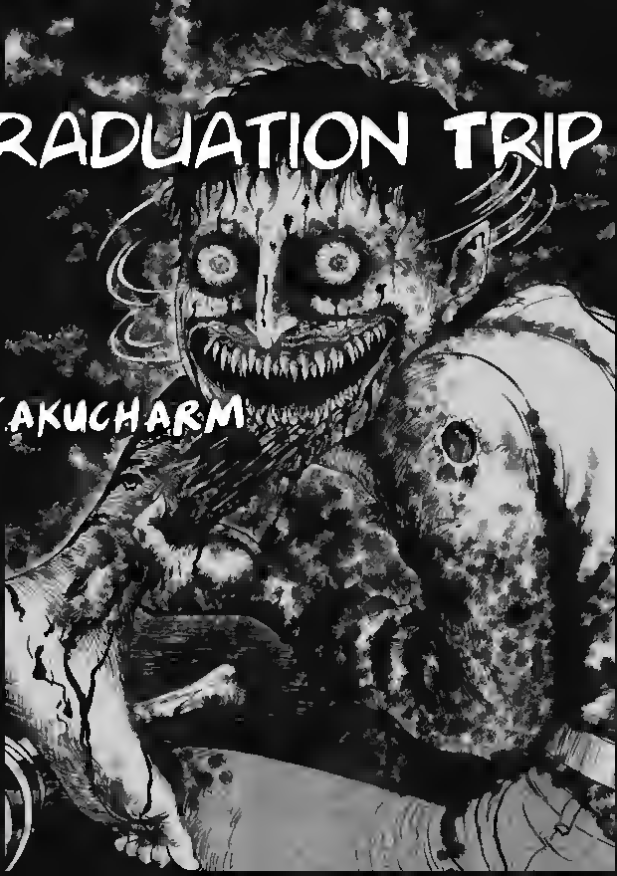
NOT A SINGLE PERSON WAS SPEAKING...
AND DURING THE WHOLE TIME WE WERE THERE, NOT A SINGLE PERSON GOT UP...

BUT IT WAS DEFINITELY TOO QUIET TO NOT BE CREEPY
BECAUSE MY VISION IS BAD I COULDN'T SEE CLEARLY
YEAH... ACTUALLY SINCE YOU SAID THAT...
HEY DON'T YOU THINK IT'S STRANGE?
I'VE BROUGHT YOU TWO YOUR DINNER
EXCUSE ME FOR INTERRUPTING
HUH?
MAY I ASK IF SHE WORKS HERE?
WHEN WE JUST WENT TO THE BATHHOUSE AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS WE BRUSHED PAST A WOMAN CARRYING A LANTERN...
YES?
UHM... EXCUSE ME MA'AM...

YEAH...
YOU BOTH SAW THAT PERSON?
ガタガタ
ガタガタ
WE WERE STARVING TO DEATH
THANK YOU FOR BRINGING US DINNER.
MA'AM
UH... MAY I ASK,
AH... NEVER-MIND, MA'AM!

IT SEEMED THAT WOMAN KNEW SOMETHING WAS UP
BECAUSE ...
WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY CHANGE THE SUBJECT?
HEY, HEZI...
IF WE CONTINUED TO LISTENED TO HER,
IT MIGHT TURN OUT TO BE REALLY SCARY, RIGHT?
SUMMER TIME RENDERING ON VACATION - END

SUMMER TIME GRADUATION TRIP



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